meeting the whole question should be thrashed out, and, if necessary, would he recommend to his chief that the Ministries of his party where these things are happening as he has mentioned should be changed through the party? These are my questions

श्री रामानन्द यादव : मान्यवर, यह बात सही है, उन्होंने बिलकुल सही कहा— आपको यह जानकर के ताज्जुब होगा कि किसी सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास यह नहीं लिखा है कि लैंड रिफार्म्स को जल्द से जल्द आप इम्पलिमेंट कीजिए। किसी राज्य सरकार ने नही लिखा है, बल्कि केन्द्रीय सरकार राज्य सरकारों को समय-समय पर लिखती रहती है कि आप लैंड रिफार्म्स में जो गाईडलाईन्स 1972 में मिली थीं और 1960 में जो आपने लैंड लेजिस्लेशन किया राज्यों में, उनको इम्पलिमेंट आप जल्द से जल्द करें यह कहा है।

अभी रेवन्यू मिनिस्टर्स कानफ्रेंस में यह डिसीजन हुआ था कि प्रेजेन्ट सीलिंग जोकि विभिन्न राज्यों में प्रेवेलेन्ट है, उसको कम किया जाए।

माननीय सदस्य, श्री निर्मल चटर्जी, यह जान कर ताज्जुब करेंगे कि उनकी सरकार ने भी लैंड सीलिंग को कम करने के संबंध में लिखा है कि कम नहीं करना चाहिए।... (**व्यवधान**)

AIDS—Scare on Doordarshan

*322 SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to states:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item, which appeared in the Sunday Observer of July 27, 1986, published from Bombay to the effect that the repeated telecast regarding the AIDS disease by Bombay Doordarshan has made the situation very precarious for Blood Banks in that city;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL:) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. AIDS being a dreaded disease, it was decided by Doordarshan that viewers should be suitably educated about its preventive aspects. Programmes and captions have been therefore, telecast after working out suitable format in consultation with experts.

(c) Government does not think necessary to take any steps at this stage as no wrong information has been given. However, Doordarshan is planning to mount a programme on Blood Donation *vis-a-vis* AIDS to clarify doubts, if any.

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : सभापति जी, सरकार की ओर से दिया गया उत्तर विसंगतिपूर्ण है। सरकार कोई कदम उठाना आवश्यक नहीं समझती क्योंकि गलत सूचना नहीं दी है, लेकिन जल्द ही एड्स-बनाम-रक्त-दान का कार्यक्रम गलत करने वाले हैं, इसका अर्थ है वह अपने प्रसारण के दुष्परिणाम को मान रही है। वास्तविकता यह है कि दूरदर्शन के इस प्रसारण में एड्स का होना और उसके प्रसारण के जो कारण बताए गए हैं, उसमें रक्त देते समय या लेते समय सूई का निर्दुन्तुक न होना, यह बताया है। यह अपने आप में भले सत्य हो, लेकिन यह जिस प्रकार प्रसारित किया गया है, उससे स्वेच्छा से रक्तदान करने वालों को डर पैदा हुआ है और सरकारी अस्पतालों के डाक्टरों के अनुसार मुम्बई तथा अन्य महानगरों मे इसके कारण रक्त के अभाव से अनेक महत्वपूर्ण शल्य-क्रियाओं में बाधा हो रही है और दूसरी ओर व्यावसायिक रक्तदाता बढ़ रहे हैं, जिनके कारण एड्स होने और प्रसारण की संभावना बढ़ रही है और दूरदर्शन के मूल उद्देश्य पर

ही पानी फेरा जा रहा है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि एड्स के विरोध में होने वाला यह लगातार प्रसारण बंद कर देना चाहिए...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are putting both the supplementaries together.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I am writhin my limits.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time is over.

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : तो क्या सरकार इस इस सुझाव को मानेगी ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Sir. as far as the alleged discrepancy in the question is concerned, what is said in the answer is that wrong information is not given. Nevertheless, if there is any doubt, that will be clarified and a campaign to that effect will be mounted as an abundant caution. This is all I have said. With regard to the other things the hon. Member mentioned and the newspaper to which he has made a reference in his question, that newspaper itself has reported that there are other causes for getting less response than this. And we have checked up and except Bombay we have not received any complaint whether in the Health Ministry or ourselves that the response has gone down.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Second supplementary. Must be a short one and one minute only.

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : महोदय, हम मानते हैं कि एड्स एक भयानक बीमारी है, जिसका अर्थ ** होता तो समझना आसान था, लेकिन यह एक्वायर्ड इम्यूनड डेफिसियन्सी सिन्ड्रोम होने के कारण कठिन है। मैं सरकार से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या एड्स-बनाम-रक्तदान यह जो नया कार्यक्रम होने वाला है, तो एड्स की हर विज्ञप्ति के साथ इसका रक्तदान से कोई संबंध नहीं, इस प्रकार की कैप्शन अनिवार्य रूप से, जैसे-सिगरेट के हर पैकेट पर लिखा होता है—इसकी पीना हानिकारक है, इस प्रकार हर विज्ञप्ति के साथ यह कैप्शन दी जाएगी ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : That is precisely what I said. Today, apart from various panel discussions and others on AIDS, various captions are telecast on this. I can read out but this is a long list. This will make it clear..

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everybody sees it on the television.

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : This will make it clear that it has nothing to do with this. The person who should worry is the receiver and not the donor. That will be made clear.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL : Sir, in all our blood banks and our blood donation centres, there is no arrangement to examine whether the virus of AIDS is present in the blood or not. Naturally, the desired caution is not taken to ensure that the virus does not spread to the people in the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how the Government proposes to improve upon the situation and how they are going to publicise in Doordarshan so that the people may be cautioned against this danger of the virus spreading the AIDS.

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Sir, the first part of the question, I submit respectfully, should be addressed to the Ministry of Health. The second part, we will do all the campaigning in consultation with the Ministry of Health.

MR CHAIRMAN : In the Memmer's statement, Mr. Mahajan, I find that you used the words "*....

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

* Deleted as ordered by the Chair.

.....". It is an innuendo and it will be removed. Yes, Mr. Sukomal Sen.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Sir, this question also relates to the Health Ministry and not only to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Sir, the manner in which the campaign is being launched on this disease of AIDS, it is in fact creating some sort of a terror in the minds of the blood donors, as my friends have already pointed out. Sir, already several blood donating agencies in Maharashtra and West Bengal they have protested against this campaign. Not only that, Sir, the Health Minister of West Bengal has categorically criticised the manner in which this propaganda is being launched and it is discouraging the blood donors, not only the blood donors but also the patients, who are given blood transfusion. They are already terrified because of the propaganda. Sir, this AIDS is a prospective disease in our country. There is no convincing proof that somebody has fallen a victim in our country as yet. But I feel that there is a heinous design of some foreign monopolists who are behind this campaign because they supply the kits for the treatment of this disease at fancy prices. These moopolists carry on the campaign throughout the world on this disease for their business purpose. I would like to know from the Minister whether he is aware of this heinous design of some foreign monopolists.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE : There is only one producer.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : And not only that, Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you have put the question.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : May I know whether he will be taking some measures to dispel the misgivings of genuine blood donors ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Sir, the only thing as Minister of Information and Broadcasting I am aware of is the telegram I have received from Mrs. Mulgaonkar from Bombay that the response has gone down. No other complaint from any other State I have received.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Sir, the. . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do you waste time on AIDS ?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Because we want to donate Blood.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not addressed to you.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : I want to know from the hon. Minister does the Health Ministry go into consultation with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting when there are specific advertisements of this type or media exposures like this released on the national TV and whether you see the implications and whether you conduct a servey as to the message that can be reached and backlashes that have come about and also whether you are planning to reach out to the Multi-lingual languages because if you are projecting a national health hazard, have you made an attempt to reach all languages through this media ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Sir, as far as the last part of the question is concerned, offhand I will not be in a position to say in which particular regional TV, in which regional languages this is given. But this is good suggestion that it should come in regional language also. As far as consultation is concerned, all public service campaigning that is done by Doordarshan is done in consultation with the respective Ministries. In this particula case the consultation was with

the Ministry of Health and the Central Health Education Bureau.

Rise in the prices of pig iron and steel consequent to Abolition of FES

*323. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government while committing itself to phased abolition of freight equalisation in relation to pig iron and steel, the State Governments were consulted; if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) the names of states and their objections to the phasing out of the scheme;

(c) what are the reasons for which only pig iron and steel have been so singled out while fertiliser, gas, petroleum and other products are going to be benefited by the freight equalisation scheme;

(d) what are the names of finished, semi-finished and other commodities getting advantage of the freight equalisation scheme; and

(e) whether the prices of steel and pig iron would increase if freight equalisation is abolished, if so, what would be the hike in total value for consumers of Gujarat per tonne and what percentage it would form in the total price of pig iron and steel?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The report of the National Transport Policy Committee was circulated by the Planning Commission to all State Governments in August, 1980 for their comments.

(b) Of the 13 States/Union Territories (including Gujarat) that replied, only Delhi Administration did not support the proposal for phasing out the existing freight equalisation schemes as they feared that States deficit in certain commodities would face serious shortages.

(c) The National Transport Policy Committee had recommended that there was a need for phasing out freight equalisation on industrial commodities like iron, steel and levy cement. In the case of fertilizers, petroleum and other products, no similar freight equalisation scheme as such is in operation.

(d) The following categories of iron and steel materials are covered under the Freight Equalisation Scheme :—

(i) Pig Iron

(ii) Semi-Finished Steel

—Billets
—Blooms
—Slabs

(iii) Finished Steel

—Bars & Rods
—Structurals
—Plates
—HR Coils/Sheets/Skelp
—CR Coils/Sheets
—Galvanised Plain & Corrugated Sheets
—Rails, Crossing Sleeper bars and Bearing Plate Bars

(e) Increase/decrease in the transportation cost/price of iron and steel will depend on the distance of the consumption centre from the source of supply. In the case of Gujarat, the increase due to cost of transport for steel would vary between Rs. 75 to Rs. 270 (between